

The TANDEM Project - so far

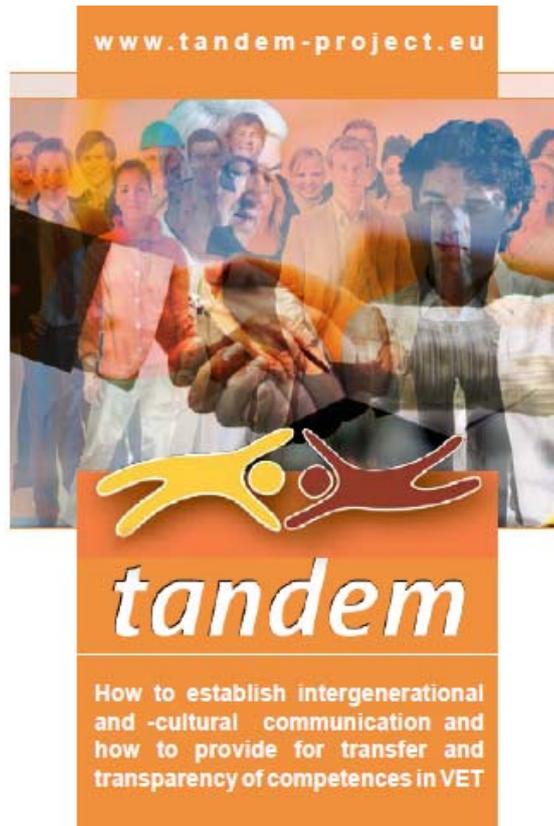
“TANDEM - How to establish intergenerational and intercultural communication and how to provide for transfer and transparency of competences in VET” is a transfer project which is based on the successful Grundtvig project “European Generation Link”. Since the kick-off meeting in Vienna in January 2010, the project partnership consisting of training providers and innovation experts from Austria, Germany and Belgium dedicated their time and work to product customization.

Customization

In a joint effort with the “new partners” in Norway, the Netherlands, Greece and Bulgaria, the project partnership put the *TANDEM Library* (www.tandem-library.eu) into practice and elaborated two other products:

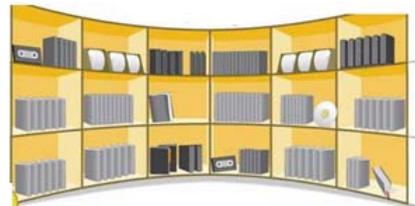
- *TANDEM Didactic Guidelines*
- *TANDEM Library User Manual*

These handbooks are going to facilitate the use and application of the *TANDEM Library* for the public. In addition, an *Implementation Concept* for stakeholders in each of these countries has been worked out to enhance sustainability of the TANDEM products.



The TANDEM Library

TANDEM brings together young low-level educated individuals and older migrants to make them benefit from each other. The young adults record work related stories told by the older participants which are then stored in the *TANDEM Library*, an interactive electronic library.



The *TANDEM Library* allows visitors to look for stories based on many criteria:

Work sectors (agriculture, construction/building, tourism, manufacturing and retail, health and social services)

Skills and Competences* (personal, social, organisational, technical, computer, artistic, other)

Keywords

* According to the European Union these skills and competences are key competences every person should possess. The way the *TANDEM Library* is structured relates to the “Europass” concept (<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu>).



Each story in the *TANDEM Library* is divided into chapters which are visually represented as two pages of a book:



You can choose your preferred language: French, German, Dutch, Greek, Bulgarian or English.

Most of the stories are written in the language of the country they come from. Additionally, some of them are translated into English in order to allow people of different countries to read and understand them.

Many stories contain pictures, photographs, audio files and video clips in addition to texts.

At present, the *TANDEM Library* contains several sample stories. The story collection will be extended in the course of the project and then made available to public.

TANDEM Library User Manual

explains users how to add, edit and remove content from the library.

It contains step-by-step instructions and descriptive illustrations which allow users to easily handle the Content

Management System (CMS) on which the *TANDEM Library* is based.

Those users who just want to search for and read stories can use the guide for better orientation in the *TANDEM Library*. If you are looking for further instructions while surfing the *TANDEM Library* just click on the “help” button as described in the user guide.

Do you need help? Click on the  button, which you will find on all pages.



TANDEM Didactic Guidelines

The *TANDEM Didactic Guidelines* are customized for teachers and trainers who want to make use of the *TANDEM Library* during classes. They provide recommendations on how to motivate young low-level educated adults to form tandem partnerships with older migrants.

Teachers are going to find practical tips (e.g. on interview methods, motivation techniques) as well as more general information about the concepts of intergenerational and intercultural learning which build the theoretical foundation of the TANDEM project.

The *TANDEM Didactic Guidelines* show how to encourage young adults to engage in knowledge transfer, share



(work) experiences and become aware of their proficiencies and competences.

Meetings and workshops

First workshop

From April 8th to April 9th the TANDEM project partners met in Stavanger, Norway, to discuss the development of the *TANDEM Library*. Additionally, the other main products of the project were further specified.



From left to right: Mr. Kronika (BEST), project coordinator and Ms. Sunde Gilje (OSK), applicant

Since the project's kick-off meeting in January 2010 the new partners from Norway, the Netherlands, Greece and Bulgaria conducted research on the specific situation of their home countries. The outcomes of their research were presented and discussed at this workshop. This was crucial to adapt the products initially elaborated in the "European Generation Link" project as the project wants to transfer them geographically and thematically to the new partner countries.

The project partnership decided to focus on five work sectors: agriculture, construction/ building, tourism, manufacturing and retail, as well as on health and social services.

Developer Workshops



The project partnership invited teachers, trainers, guidance counsellors and course designers to participate in the development of the *TANDEM Library* and the *TANDEM Didactic Guidelines*. For this purpose, workshops were organized in each partner country.

In Stavanger, Norway, e.g. eight young adults who were trained in health & child care, elderly care or secretary work met in a workshop in May 2010 in order to discuss how they could find and motivate older people with a migration background in order to interview them about their work life and upload their stories into the *TANDEM Library*. They also talked about how they could use the Europass CV to make their competences transparent.

The next TANDEM newsletter will be published in April 2011.

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. Project number LLP-LdV/TOI/2009-NO1-LE005-01045



Impressum: **BEST**
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